

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BANGKO 02307 231047Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00  
SSC-01 /021 W

-----106767 231126Z /21

R 231015Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8601

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 02307

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, PINT, TH

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR ARUN PHANUPHONG AS UNDER  
SECRETARY OF STATE AT MFA

1. IN COURSE OF CALL ON HIM BY DCM JAN 23 THAI AMBASSADOR  
TO U.S. ARUN PHANUPHONG CONFIRMED PRESS REPORTS THAT HE  
HAD BEEN APPROVED BY CABINET ON JAN 16 AS UNDER SECRETARY  
OF STATE AT MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. HE SAID THAT HE  
HAD SENT INSTRUCTIONS TO THAI EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TO  
INFORM DEPARTMENT OF TERMINATION OF HIS MISSION TO U.S.  
AS OF JAN 16.

2. REGARDING HIS REPLACEMENT AS AMBASSADOR TO U.S., ARUN  
NOTED THAT UNDER SECRETARY IS NO LONGER DIRECTLY INVOLVED  
IN SELECTION OF AMBASSADORS, WHICH IS MATTER NOW IN HANDS  
OF FOREIGN MINISTER AND PRIME MINISTER. HE ADDED THAT HE  
HAD BEEN ASKED TO DRAFT LEGISLATION MAKING IT POSSIBLE TO  
APPOINT AMBASSADORS FROM OUTSIDE THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE  
AND OVER 60 YEARS OF AGE (AGE 60 IS MANDATORY RETIREMENT  
LIMIT FOR THAI MILITARY AND CIVIL SERVICE OFFICERS).

3. WHILE HE HAD NO DIRECT KNOWLEDGE, ARUN SPECULATED  
THAT THIS CHANGE IN LEGISLATION RELATED TO PRIMIN'S  
DESIRE TO APPOINT SOMEONE OUTSIDE OF CURRENT FONMIN STAFF  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BANGKO 02307 231047Z

TO WASHINGTON. PARENTHETICALLY, HE ALSO NOTED PRESS  
REPORTS LAST WEEK THAT SECRETARY-GENERAL OF CIVIL SERVICE  
COMMISSION, COL. CHINDA NA SONGKHLA, HAD BEEN APPROACHED  
BY PRIMIN TO BE AMBASSADOR TO U.S. BUT APPARENTLY HAD  
TURNED DOWN OFFER. CHINDA RESIGNED RECENTLY FROM HIS  
CIVIL SERVICE POSITION IN PROTEST OVER RECENT GOVERNMENT  
ACTIONS ON AMENDING CIVIL SERVICE REFORMS WHICH CHINDA

HAD PERSONALLY RECOMMENDED.  
WHITEHOUSE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AMBASSADORS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BANGKO02307  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780033-0895  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780135/aaaabdpr.tel  
**Line Count:** 64  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 310625e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3733222  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR ARUN PHANUPHONG AS UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE AT MFA  
**TAGS:** PDIP, PINT, TH, STATE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/310625e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014